



Los Angeles County
Department of Regional Planning

Planning for the Challenges Ahead



Richard J. Bruckner
Director

March 09, 2010

TO: Supervisor Gloria Molina, Chair
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

FROM: 
Richard J. Bruckner
Director

**SUBJECT: QUARTERLY STATUS REPORT ON BOARD MOTION REGARDING
RURAL ISSUES AND THE GENERAL PLAN UPDATE
(December 9, 2008, Item 39-B)**

On December 9, 2008 your Board instructed the Director of Planning to take the following actions:

1. Formulate draft standards for development of rural communities within the General Plan Update;
2. Identify provisions that relate to development of rural communities in future outreach efforts concerning the General Plan Update;
3. Make a presentation to the Association of Rural Town Councils no later than April of 2009 concerning rural issues and the General Plan Update; and,
4. Report back to the Board of Supervisors every 90 days identifying how the Department is addressing rural issues in the General Plan Update.

This is the fifth quarterly status report as directed by your Board motion and it summarizes the progress the Department of Regional Planning has made in addressing the actions outlined above. The Department of Regional Planning has worked closely with rural stakeholders to establish rural goals and policies for the Draft General Plan and has made presentations about these to the Association of Rural Town Councils. Details on outreach, rural goals and policies, and presentations have been reported in previous quarterly status reports.

The Draft General Plan is now being comprehensively revised and the Department of Regional Planning is incorporating into it what was learned from the 2009 collaboration with the Association of Rural Town Councils and the outreach to rural residents. When

adopted, the General Plan will establish the framework for the protection of rural communities and support the further clarification of rural protection in local plans such as the update of the Antelope Valley Area Plan.

The revised Draft General Plan will ensure that the County's land use policies are employed strategically to direct the majority of future growth away from rural areas and into suburban and urban areas with greater access to infrastructure, transit, and regional commercial centers. Keeping rural issues at the forefront in the revision of this complex policy document will make certain that the uniqueness and role of rural communities in Los Angeles County is not overlooked.

Staff will continue to reach out to rural residents and work with the dedicated and informed representatives of the Association of Rural Town Councils as the Draft General Plan is being revised. As instructed by your Board, future outreach efforts will clarify the unique role that rural communities have in the update of the Los Angeles County General Plan. The next quarterly report on rural issues and the General Plan Update will be delivered on June 8, 2010.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact me or Mark Herwick of my staff at (213) 974-6423 or by email at mherwick@planning.lacounty.gov. Our office hours are 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday. We are closed on Fridays.

RJB:RCH:MSH

c: Chief Executive Officer, Attn: Lari Sheehan
County Counsel
Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
Wayne Argo, President, Association of Rural Town Councils